

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 058161
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

S E C R E T STATE 058161

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, PARM, TECH, UK

SUBJECT: REPORT ON FRG NUCLEAR DEAL

REFS: LONDON 4229, STATE 57084

1. UK COUNSELOR KEN SCOTT CALLED AT HIS REQUEST ON JOSEPH NYE, DEPUTY TO UNDER SECRETARY, TO OBTAIN REPORT ON DISCUSSIONS WITH FRG IN BONN AND WASHINGTON, AS AGREED BETWEEN FONSEC OWEN AND SECRETARY VANCE.
2. NYE PROVIDED GENERAL REPORT FRG DISCUSSION, AS WELL AS TALKS WITH BRAZIL AND NETHERLANDS, ALONG LINES OF STATE 48250, 57086 AND BONN 4365. HE EMPHASIZED TO SCOTT THAT WE WOULD WANT TO PURSUE THESE ISSUES IN GREATER DETAIL WITH
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SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 058161

MOBERLY WHEN HE VISITS WASHINGTON ON MARCH 21 AND 22. IN PARTICULAR, WE PLAN TO DISCUSS COMPLEX ISSUE OF URENCO FUELING OF GERMAN REACTORS, AND WOULD HOPE THAT UK TAKE NO DECISIONS ON THESE MATTERS PENDING DISCUSSIONS WITH MOBERLY.

3. SCOTT INDICATED THAT FRG HAD REQUESTED CONSULTATIONS ON URENCO FUELING AND BRAZIL NUCLEAR ISSUES IN BONN THIS

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, AND CONFIRMED THAT OWEN WAS PLANNING TO RESPOND TO COMMUNICATION FROM FONMIN GENSCHER ON THIS SUBJECT. NYE REQUESTED THAT DISCUSSIONS AND COMMUNICATION WITH FRG BE DEFERRED UNTIL AFTER HE AND MOBERLY HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE ISSUES IN DETAIL.

4. SCOTT ALSO REPORTED THAT UK WAS CONSIDERING PURSUING INTERNATIONAL PLUTONIUM STORAGE, AS FURTHER SAFEGUARD OVER NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH BRAZIL, WITH FRG AND GON PARTNERS IN URENCO. NYE EXPLAINED THAT US HAD RAISED QUESTIONS REGARDING NON-PROLIFERATION BENEFITS OF PROPOSAL WITH BOTH FRG AND GON BUT HAD UNDERTAKEN TO STUDY PROPOSAL IN GOOD FAITH, WITH EXPECTATION THAT SENSITIVE NUCLEAR LICENSES AND TRANSFERS WOULD NOT BE APPROVED BY FRG IN INTERIM. WE WOULD INTEND TO EXPLORE THIS PROPOSAL FURTHER WITH MOBERLY WHEN HE VISITS WASHINGTON.

5. NYE REPORTED US READINESS TO EXAMINE FURTHER TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF PROPOSED FRG LICENSES AND TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF LONDON SUPPLIERS GROUP TO INCLUDE CONSUMERS SUCH AS BRAZIL, AS RESULT OF FONMIN GENSCHER'S DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY. EXAMINATION OF LICENSES IS OF COURSE SEPARATE FROM SYMBOLIC, POLITICAL AND PRECEDENTIAL CONCERNS PRESENTED TO DR. HERMES IN WASHINGTON AND BONN.

6. SCOTT UNDERTOOK TO SEEK CONFIRMATION FROM LONDON THAT CONSULTATIONS WITH MOBERLY WOULD PRECEDE FURTHER CONSULTATIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS WITH FRG ON THIS SUBJECT.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 058161

HE EXPECTED RESPONSE BY COB WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16.

7. CONTENT OF NYE BRIEFING IS FYI ONLY, BUT EMBASSY MAY WISH TO EMPHASIZE TO FCO IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO PRIOR CONSULTATIONS WITH MOBERLY ON THIS ISSUE.

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